

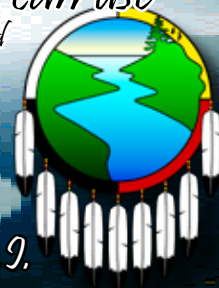
*Gzhiijwang Ziibi Dabaadjimowin*

*Government news you can use*  
*Gdinimikaago ... Mino Enuhkuimmegud*

# *Rapid River News!*

*March 9, 2009*

*From L.R.B.O.I.*



*(The following information comes from a weekly update supplied to the Ogema concerning the tribal government, local communities and issues that affect overall tribal business.)*

## (Cultural related items)

- Pow Wow List! A new listing of 2009 Pow Wows for the Great Lakes region is now available on the tribal website? (Located in the lower left column on the main page.). Go to [www.lrboi.com](http://www.lrboi.com) for the list. An abbreviated list will also appear regularly through the season in the Currents.

## (General area items)

- The Manistee County 2-1-1 database is now accessible via the toll-free number 877-211-5253. Please keep in mind how many individuals, families, children, employees, students, etc., can be connected to services quickly and compassionately via the 2-1-1 system. Every call is confidential and handled by nationally certified call specialists. Tribal Family Services has been working with the 2-1-1 board on development of this program. If you live outside Michigan, be sure to check and see if your local 2-1-1 system is in place as of yet. This is a national initiative to better serve all citizens.
- LRCR. THE OPEN SESSION BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETINGS ARE SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 27 AND APRIL 17 AT 4PM IN THE GRAND RIVER ROOM OF THE CASINO.
- Big Brothers/Sisters. Informational presentations about this wonderful program will be held at 11:30am—12:30pm or 6:00pm—7:00pm on Monday, March 23, 2009. The presentations are brought to LRBOI by Peacemaking and Be-Da-Bin. They will be at the Justice Center.

## (Tribal Government-Department items)

- Currents Election issue! The April edition of your tribal paper will again present articles from your candidates. They are all invited to submit 400 word articles by the deadline of noon, March 17th. Distribution of the paper will be by the 23rd of March in order that the paper is received by Tribal members before the election.
- Candidate Forum: A Candidate Forum is scheduled for the 28th of March at 2 p.m. in the Three Fires Conference Center. All General Election candidates are invited to attend and address the membership. The Election Board will also be available from 1:00 p.m. until 2 p.m. to meet with members who have questions concerning the election process.
- E-addresses Please! We are compiling a list of Tribal Member e-mail addresses in order to send out timely updates on tribal issues and activities. Be sure to send your e-mail address to [aeagle@lrboi.com](mailto:aeagle@lrboi.com) and cc to [gzaring@lrboi.com](mailto:gzaring@lrboi.com). Your list will only be used for tribal information and will not be used for or sold for any other purposes.
- Education Opportunity. See the article below regarding an opportunity for the Youth Leadership Challenge at the Haskell Indian Nations University.
- Education lecture note. Kimberly Huyser will be lecturing on Native Fruition: Inequality and American Indian Perseverance, Thursday, March 12 at the Commons Lecture Hall 7- 9pm at Calvin College, in Grand Rapids. Click on this link for more information, <http://www.calvin.edu/admin/provost/multicultural/symposium/index09.html>
- Employees back to 40 hours. Tribal Council on March 4th, voted to restore tribal employees to a 40- hour work week beginning with the week of March 16th. At the beginning of 2009, employees had been cut to 32 hours as a cost savings measure. Ogema Romanelli supported the return. For tribal members this will mean a return to the availability of services Monday through Friday.

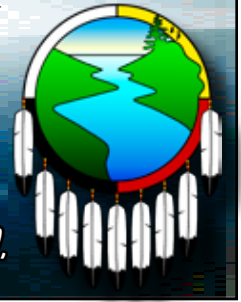
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## BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION YOUTH LEADERSHIP CHALLENGE At Haskell Indian Nations University

June 15 through 19, 2009

### Program Overview:

The Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) is sponsoring the Youth Leadership Challenge 2009. The program will provide a rigorous schedule of instruction, events, challenges, recreation and social activities that are designed to create awareness and improve the knowledge base of young tribal members in the unique Nation to Nation relationship that Indian Tribes have with the United States Government. Participants will receive instruction from tribal leaders and other experts in the field based upon a curriculum that will provide knowledge and information on the historical, political, legal and social development of tribal governments as the instrument to carry out this nation to nation relationship. Activities that enhance knowledge and promote problem solving skills will be integrated into the program. Competition between groups and evening social activities will provide motivation and foster communication and sharing among participants and facilitators. Follow up challenges, projects, and activities will be continued throughout the year for participants completing the challenge.

### Eligibility Requirements:

The program is open to American Indian/Alaska Native students who will be entering their sophomore, junior or senior year during the fall of 2009. Students from all BIE operated and funded schools are welcome to apply. Schools, community and tribal organizations are encouraged to sponsor students to attend the challenge. Food and lodging will be provided. Travel to and from Haskell will be the responsibility of the participant or the participant's school or sponsoring organization. Students should plan to arrive on campus anytime after noon on Sunday, June 14, and depart for home Saturday, June 20. A total of 150 to 200 applicants will be approved to attend the challenge. Students that demonstrate leadership skills and those that need a little motivation are encouraged to apply. Students will need to complete the following check list, to apply.

1. Youth Leadership Challenge Program application
2. Recommendation forms completed by a teacher and school counselor.
3. A 250 to 300 word essay (Written or Typed) identifying the four major areas (economic development, education, social programs, cultural activities, etc.) that the student's tribe is involved in that have a positive influence on their lives. The essay should also identify the top four challenges that the student feels his/her tribe faces and recommend solutions to those challenges.
4. Verification of Enrollment in grades 9 through 11. (for example, the student's Report Card or a letter from the school administrator)
5. Certificate Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) or letter from tribal official verifying eligibility for tribal membership.
6. A parent's or guardian's signature on the application
7. A recent photograph and shirt size
8. A list of any medical conditions and medications that may present challenges to participation in some activities

The application and supporting materials must be received by May 1, 2009. Applications must be complete to be considered. Applicants that are selected will be notified no later than May 15, 2009. Please submit applications to: Stephanie Birdwell, Deputy Director, Policy and Post Secondary, Bureau of Indian Education, 1849 C Street, NW ; MS-3609 MIB Washington D.C. 20240 . If you have any questions about the Youth Leadership Challenge, please contact Ms. Birdwell at: 202-208-4397 or via e-mail at: [sbirdwell@bia.edu](mailto:sbirdwell@bia.edu).

(Kateri Circle Prayer)

"My father told me that Hopi earth does contain my roots and I am, in deed, from thaland. Because my roots are there, I will find them."

--Wendy Rose, HOPI/MIWOK

Everything that comes from the earth will return to the earth. We should be able to realize the connectedness to the earth. We should be able to feel toward Her just like She is our real Mother. We can easily feel this connectedness if we can answer these three questions: why am I?, who am I?, and where am I going? If we cannot answer these questions, then perhaps we need to talk to the Elders. go to the Elders and ask, "Grandfather, why am I?; Grandmother, who am I?; Oh Great One, where am I supposed to go?" The Elders will help us with these three questions.

Grandfather, help me to stay centered today.

(compiled by Office of Public Affairs)

If you have any specific questions, ideas or comments regarding this information, please address them to:

The Public Information Office, LRBOI, 375 River Street, Manistee, MI. 49660. 231-398-6840.

Or send them direct to [currentcomments@lrboi.com](mailto:currentcomments@lrboi.com) .

Your comments will be forwarded to the right person at the tribal government within 24 hours.